



## DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

### DIRECTIVE 023

**WHEREAS**, in late 2019, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 11, 2020, the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses named this novel coronavirus “severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2);” and

**WHEREAS**, on February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization named the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, “COVID-19;” and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization advises that the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 virus is highly contagious, and spreads through respiratory transmission, and direct and indirect contact with infected persons and surfaces; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization advises that respiratory transmission occurs through both droplet and airborne transmission, where droplet transmission occurs when a person is within 6 feet of someone who has respiratory symptoms like coughing or sneezing, and airborne transmission may occur when aerosolized particles remain suspended in the air and is inhaled; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization advises that contact transmission occurs by direct contact with infected people or indirect contact with surfaces contaminated by the novel coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, I, Steve Sisolak, Governor of the State of Nevada issued a Declaration of Emergency to facilitate the State’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Donald J. Trump, President of the United States declared a nationwide emergency pursuant to Sec. 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the “Stafford Act”); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, I formed a medical advisory team to provide medical guidance and scientifically based recommendations on measures Nevada could implement to better contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, since the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency, I have issued 22 Directives pursuant to that order to provide for the safety, wellbeing, and public health of Nevadans and the administration of the State of Nevada; and

**WHEREAS**, although the danger to Nevadans from the COVID-19 disease has abated, the disease has not been eliminated and measures that protect safety, wellbeing, and public health of Nevadans must remain in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 21, 2020, the National Governors Association issued guidance for a staged reopening that protects the public's health while laying a strong foundation for long-term economic recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2020, I introduced the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan that outlined a phased approach to reopening Nevada businesses and industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan set forth a collaborative partnership between state and local governments that included the formation of the Local Empowerment Advisory Panel ("LEAP") to serve as a resource to local governments and local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 9, 2020, the State of Nevada entered Phase One of the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 29, 2020, the State of Nevada entered Phase Two of the *Nevada United: Roadmap to Recovery* plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises that physical activity fosters normal growth and development, reduces anxiety, improves brain function and overall health and can reduce the risk of various chronic disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the LEAP develops statewide guidelines for social distancing and phased reopening in consultation with local health authorities and other subject matter experts; and

**WHEREAS**, NRS 414.060 outlines powers and duties delegated to the Governor during the existence of a state of emergency, including without limitation, directing and controlling the conduct of the general public and the movement and cessation of movement of pedestrians and vehicular traffic during, before and after exercises or an emergency or disaster, public meetings or gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, NRS 414.070 outlines additional powers delegated to the Governor during the existence of a state of emergency, including without limitation, enforcing all laws and regulations relating to emergency management and assuming direct operational control of any or all forces, including, without limitation, volunteers and auxiliary staff for emergency management in the State; providing for and compelling the evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area or areas within the State and to take such steps as are necessary for the receipt and care of those



persons; and performing and exercising such other functions, powers and duties as are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nevada Attorney General opined in Opinion Number 95-03 that in times of emergency when the Governor's authority under Nevada Revised Statutes Chapter 414 is in effect, the powers of political subdivisions to control business activity is limited; and

**WHEREAS**, NRS 414.060(3)(f) provides that the administrative authority vested to the Governor in times of emergency may be delegated; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides: "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada;" and

**NOW THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Nevada and the United States, and pursuant to the March 12, 2020, Emergency Declaration,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

SECTION 1: To the extent this Directive conflicts with earlier Directives or regulations promulgated pursuant to the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency, the provisions of this Directive shall prevail.

SECTION 2: The phrase "social distancing" references guidance promulgated by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including without limitation, maintaining at least six feet of physical distancing from other individuals. The phrase "sanitation requirements," "sanitation measures," and "sanitation guidelines" includes without limitation, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible, using hand sanitizer, covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands), regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.

SECTION 3: Section 3 of Direction 007 is hereby amended to provide that effective 12:01 am on June 11, 2020, local governments may permit the usage of outdoor soccer fields, outdoor baseball and softball facilities, and other outdoor athletic fields by organized youth sporting leagues. Activities pursuant to this section shall occur on a spectatorless basis only and must occur in a manner that does not result in the gathering of fifty or more persons pursuant to Section 10 of Directive 021.

SECTION 4: Youth sports that promote contact, including without limitation, football, wrestling, basketball, rugby, lacrosse, and hockey, may resume only on a limited basis for athletic conditioning, drills, and practices in which dummy players, sleds, punching bags and similar equipment is used, but athletes do not come into contact with other players.

SECTION 5: Pursuant to NRS 414.060(3)(f), I hereby delegate to state agencies, and each county of this state, to include the consolidated municipality of Carson City, and local municipalities, the authority to adopt additional protective measures intended to

combat the spread of COVID-19, including without limitation, stay at home and face covering orders, so long as those measures are at least as restrictive as those imposed by all Directives promulgated pursuant to the Declaration of Emergency for COVID-19 issued on March 12, 2020. Additional restrictive measures adopted by counties and municipalities may be implemented without additional approval by the State.

SECTION 6: Pursuant to NRS 414.060(3)(f), I hereby authorize all local, city, and county governments, and state agencies to enforce this Directive and regulations promulgated thereunder, including but not limited to, suspending licenses, revoking licenses, or issuing penalties for violating business, professional, liquor, tobacco, or gaming licenses issued by the local jurisdiction for actions that jeopardize the health, safety, or welfare of the public; conduct which may injuriously affect the public health, safety, or welfare; conduct that may be detrimental to the public peace, health, or morals; or any other applicable ordinance or requirement for such a license.

SECTION 7: The State of Nevada shall retain all authority vested in the Governor pursuant to NRS Chapter 414.

SECTION 8: This Directive shall remain in effect until the state of emergency declared on March 12, 2020 is terminated or unless renewed by a subsequent Directive promulgated pursuant to the March 12, 2020 Declaration of Emergency to facilitate the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year two thousand twenty.

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Governor of the State of Nevada

*Barbara K. Cegavske*  
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Secretary of State

*David L. ...*  
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Deputy Secretary of State